

# C V P I D S MESSENGER:

O R,

A trusty Friend stored with sundry sorts of serious, wittie,  
pleasant, amorous, and delightfull Letters.

---

*What Cupid blazes to discover, Thus to write he learns the Lover.*

---

Newly written.



Printed at London by M. F. and are to be sold by Francis Grange  
ouer against the Saracens head without Newgate 1619.

*Ref. 9.12.99*

Q A P I D

Q A P I D

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## CVPIDS MESSENGER DELIVERING SYNDRY Excellent Letters.

A Letter inuiling his Friend to write to him.

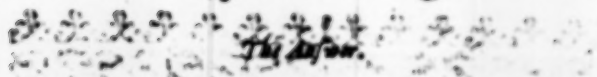


Though the want of your sweet society  
(my worthy friend) doe certainly reason  
of griefe, yet it lies in you even by the  
ten million of your desired Letters, to  
mitigate that sorrow: and thus the di-  
stance of place both denie vs our accusto-  
med conference and all communica-  
tion, let the passages and entercourse of our Letters supply  
that defect. As our tongues cannot be heard, let vs be  
frequent in our writing: and let not the change of places al-  
ter our minde. Wherefore that you might not longer be  
negligent of our long-past amitie, as forgetfull of our old  
friendship, I haue tooke boldnesse to writt you with this let-  
ter, desiring you to be no niggard in this kind of friendly  
remembrance. I wish to you all prosperous fortunes as to  
my selfe, and continue my love to you with all sinceritie.  
But lest the politrie of my Letter grow to the length of  
an Oracion, I set bounds to my writing, and remains

London.  
Febr. 4. 1619.

Yours in boundlesse affection,  
C.D.

## Cupids Messenger.



*A Letter excusatory for not writing.*

**I** Am afraid (indiscreet and kind Sir) that it is with me as it is with that unfortunate Pylot who falls into the Gulls of Scylla, while he intends to avoid the danger of Charybdis.

*Incident in Scylla's cupids vision Charybdis.*

I confesse I have receiued Letters from you, and seeking by not answering all this while to conceale the rudenesse of my vapourish penne from the deepe discerning eye of your iudgement, I doubt whether I have not made shipwracke of your good opinion, who happily imputes my silence vnto my negligence of your loue, or to my oblivion of your past kindnesse: But I beseech you (kindest Sir) to haue thus much confidence in disposition, that no confused Chaos of cogitations, no fullnesse of imployment, shall banish your remembrance out of my thoughts: though I bee neuer so busie I make answer to those I little regard, I dare scarce write to you (I am possessed with such a due reuerence of your worthinesse) when I am most at leisure. Yet finding in my selfe how farre greater a crime it is to neglect duty then to lay open my imperfession to a well wishing friend, I haue chosen the latter to make tender of the former: wishing that as you equalize graue Nestor in wisdom, to you might parallel him in the longuuity of a happy life, I humbly subscribe:

Newcastle,

June 2. 1639.

*At your command.*

*E. R.*

# Cupids Messenger.

3

A Letter to a friend vpon the death of his wife.

**T**he acquaintance I had with your vertuous wife (best friend) makes me feele the sense of her losse, for he that can be insensible of the losse of a good woman, is an alien to nature, and a rebell to all morall vertues. I may truly say she was praise-worthy for her many good parts, but they were but good promises for the world to come.

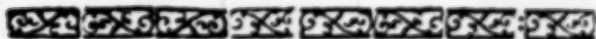
Give me leave to aske you why you mourne, I meane not why you mourne outwardly, which is an old custome and a matter of somnolency, but why doe you mourne inwardly, which is the true sorrow: you will say (I say) the losse of a companion. Indeed you doe well, for as a man was so lary before God gaue him one, so should he be after God takes her away: but there is a meane in all things. As be hard hearted is beast like, so too tender is effeminate, to be sensible is manly. As for you, you cannot offer a more acceptable sacrifice to the dead, then by turning the pain you bare her, into care of her children, to which I know you by nature so well inclined, that I need not to insinuate, but only remember you: but since wise men in sudden accidents and in cases concerning themselves are sometimes so seake, I am bold to aduise you now, though henceforth I would be glad to be aduised by you: resting

Arthingworth  
Your servant,

Arthingworth.  
July 7. 1629.

I. M.

A



A comfortable Letter vpon the losse of  
a Husband.

Madam

**T**hough some imagine the paine of your losse, not soles  
the want so deeply as your selfe. yet I may take vpon  
me more feeling then another man, being, for the love I  
beare you more sensible of your misfortune and affliction: I  
my selfe have contributed many teares, and I confesse  
there is great allowance of griefe for good times for the  
small hopefullnes of wealthy husbands, but you were better  
forget the head then the lining, (your daughters I meane)  
to whom (I am opinimated) you would not wish so sad an  
increase as your death would bring them, which by this  
your course of murthering sickness is too much heeded: so  
let not your hart be of patience as before you, but so triag-  
nally behaue your selfe in your troubles, that your  
acquaintance may take more cause to comfort you, then  
to grieue you: **Madam** I beseech you helpe me to be

acquainted with your sorrowful hart, and to be  
acquainted with your sorrowful hart, and to be

Arthingworth  
March 4 1639:

W.M.

Arthingworth  
March 4 1639

## Cupids Messenger.

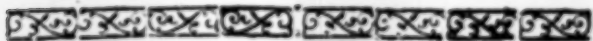
A Letter of griefe for his friends absence.

**O**f such comfortable use is the familiarity of a sweet companion, that those hours of our life seeme most happy which are passed away in the society of a friend: If we take a journey his company is in stead of a Coach: there's not a thought, nor a word, of the tediousness of the way: If we abide at home, we imagine that the stile of Time too speedily swipes away the hours. But on the contrarie, needs must his life be melancholike that hath no friend to sweeten the slow transcurtion of Time. I wish my owne experience were not too true prooofe hereof, for since your absence, slowest friend, melancholly hath bene my concomitant, and your remembrance my greatest comfort. And as the Turtle pines away after the loss of his mate, so since your departure my bosom hath admitted no consolation. I request you by that interest which I have in your loue, since in person I cannot, that I may see you in a letter. Silence betwixt absent friends incurreth the censure of an inofficious and inuill disposition. But I know you will vindicate your selfe from a charge of so dishonest a nature. I rest

Frandon.  
Aug. 1618.

Yours vnremoueably,

I. C.



A Letter for the entreaty of good will to a  
young Gentlewoman.

**T**he long and considerate regard by which in deepe contemplation I haue eyed your most rare and singular vertues, toynd with so admirable beauty, and much pleasing

King condition, grafted in your person, hath moued me, good  
mistris E. B. among a number whom I know intirely to  
fauour you, earnestly to loue you and therewith to offer  
my selfe vnto you. Now howbeit I may happely seme in  
some ries, the least in worthinesse of a number that daily  
frequent you, yet may you vouchsafe in your owne pinate  
to reckon me with the greatest in willingnesse. Wherein,  
if a settled and immoueable affection towards you is ser-  
uent and assured lone, grounded vpon the vndeceivable stay  
and prop of your vertues, if continuall, my rather inex-  
minable bowes, in all perpetuitie addicted vnto your ser-  
uices, if neuer ceasing and tormenting grieue vncertainlie  
caried by a hazardous expectation, closed in the circle of your  
gratious conceit, whether to bying vnto the eares of my  
soule a sweet murmur of life, or seuerer sentence of a present  
death, may ought at all puaile, either to moue, entreat,  
sue, sollicite, or perswade you, I then am the man, who  
shining in my inward thoughts the dignitie of so worthe  
a creature, and pising in deapest waight (though not to the  
uttermost value) the estimate of so incomparable a beautie,  
hane resolved lining to honoz you, and dying neuer to serue  
other but you, from whose delicate lookes expecting no  
worse acceptance, then may seme answerable to so diuine  
an excellencie: I remaine

January 10.  
1619.

Your most passionate, loyall,  
and perpetually  
deuoted,

R. F.

*Her*

# Cupids Messenger.

7

*Her Answer.*

**T**Hat men haue skill, and are by sundry commendable parts enabled to set forth their meaning, there needeth no other testimony then your present writing, your eloquence is far beyond the reach of my poore wit, and the multiplicity of your praises fitter for a poeticall goddesse, then to the erection of any such deesse. For my part, I shall hold them as the fancies and toys of men, issuing from the weakest of their humors, and how farre my selfe can deserue, none better then my selfe can conceiue. Being one of so good sort, as you are, I could doe no lesse then write againe vnto you, the rather to satisfie the importunity of your messenger, wishing such a one to your lot as might paragonne those excellencies you writ of, and answer euery way to the substance of all those inestimable praises. So hauing your loue and your writing, (as I take it) be best sured together.

*Your as farre as modesty  
will, to answer your  
courtesies.*

May 24. 1639.

H. B.

¶

*Another*

## Cupids Messenger.

Another Letter to his Mistris,  
desiring her loue.

**G**OOD mistris I. P. I am bold, though a stranger, to make these lines messengers at this present of my good meaning towards you, wherein I goe not about by pretence of a most entice and hearty good will, which I profess to beare you, to make present surmise thereupon that on so bare an assertion you should immediately credit me, I prize your worthinesse at a far greater value, and weigh your good allowance so much, as I onely desire by your favourable liking I may intreat to haue access to you, not doubting but by being in your presence, I shall so sufficiently by apparent prooofe mainetaine the efficacie of that I now protest, and giue so good occasion, to doe me well of me, as you shall haue no reason to repent you, that vpon so honest and louing a request you haue condescended to my entreaty: whose health and prosperitie tending as mine otone, I send you with my Letter a token of that great affection I beare you, which I pray you most hartily to accept of, and beare for me. And euer so doe continue,

I. P.

Yours if so you please to  
accept of me.

R. M.

Mistris A

23

*Her answer.*

**S**Ir, your message is to me as strange as your selfe, who are vnto me as stranger, and what your good meaning vnto me is, I know not: for giuing of credit vnto your assertion, as you seeme not to challenge it, so was I neuer hitherto of my selfe so hally to doe it, hauing oftentimes beene taught, that of fairest speeches ensueth the foulest actions: I cannot  
con-



## Cupids Messenger. 9

condemne your purpose, because I intend the best of your dealings, and howbeit I am in no point so restrained, but that in all reasonable sort that may bee, any accesse may be granted, so when you shall by farther notice sufficiently make apperent that with modestly I may doe it, I shall bee willing so farre forth as my years and present being may minnister occasion, in any thankfull requirall that may bee to yeeld my selfe vnto you. Till which time I returne your token againe, and my hearty thanks vnto you by this bearer.

*Your friend as one vnacquainted  
hiuberto may be.*

I. P.



To a beauteous Lady vpon a  
long affection.

**H**ow impossible it is to keepe heat from fire, being that very nature of the element, I referre to your best iudgement, and how neere a spirit of that nature, is the loue of the heart kindled by the spe of beautie, I leave to your kindnesse to consider: Since then such is the force of true loue, as cannot be so smothered vp in silence, but that it must burst out into words and actions, either to gaine comfort, or to suffer death, pardon (fairest of beauties) that Patient that in anguish seeks ease and deny not your help in the excellency of the cure: your beautie hath moued me, your excellent feature your comely gesture, your sweet behauiour, haue all concurred to make me unhappie, vnlesse your hand helpe me, and though the hurt be more felt then same, yet is it not deadly, if you be kinde: loath I am to bee a begger without desert, and yet lone will stoop a high spi-

## Cupids Messenger.

rit, which, by the hand of true honour hath sworne me your true servant: in which Title, under heaven, shall be my hearts greatest honoz: and in the honoz of whose favour, shall be the height of my worlds happinesse: in hope whereof, praying to the highest Power in the heavens to blesse you with all felicitie on earth, I rest

Your devoted, and not  
to be removed

P. E.

*Her Answer.*

Sir, how easie it is to quench a fire in his first kindling, experience can deliver; in the diversity of hearts lone being not the least that is like to doe much hurt, I wish you to take order with your wits, lest it bring your braine to an ill comfort. And therefore in placing of affection, bee not too far from discretion, lest the perswasion of selfe-will, be an abuse of a better sense. If I had skill in Physicke, I would prescribe you helpe for your disease, but being a simple woman, you must haue patience with my plainnesse, who not knowing how to doe you good, and vnwilling to wish you hurt, leaving you to a better Paradise then in the torment of an idle passion, I rest in what I may,

*Yours as kindly as  
I finde cause.*

A. N.

To

# Cupids Messenger

11

To a iudicious Gentlewoman.

Deare friend :

**T**he forcible effect & conquest which your beauty hath wrought in my heart constrained me in your kindnesse to place the hope of my fortune : beseeching you so to equall your outward excellences with an inward perfection, that faith may not have feare of fauour, where humilitie shall guide the course of affection : I should esteeme my selfe the most vnhappie if I should giue your eares any distast by my suit. but if it light within the line of your liking, it shall begin the garden of my paradise : so vnder heauen seeking no other star, then the guide of your grace to lead my heart to the ioy of my life : I rest, neuer to rest till I euer rest

From Madrid.  
March 16.

Yours all, or mine owne  
nothing at all.  
E. C.

*Her Answer.*

**I** Am sorry to thinke that a shadow of dust should haue that force (in conceit) to rob reason of his contents: for beauty is but a shadow, which if your eye hath found in my face, let it goe no further lest it doe wrong to my will in hurting your heart : my inside I hope is farre from disgracing any good in my outside, and both altogether vnhappy, if they haue bene any occasion of euill : but least I may seeme discontent either at the matter or manner of your writing, I discharge you of the burthen of that feare, by the kinde acceptance of your affection, which though I cannot answer as I would, yet, as in good reason I may, I will thinke and consider of, which if it fall out to your liking, be not vnfaithfull in your loue, in hope whereof I rest,

*Yours wholly, if at all. A.B.*

To

## Cupids Messenger.

To a Lady, with whom he fell in loue seeing her  
at a solemne Triumph.

**W**hen I saw you (excellent Lady) viewing the  
Triumphs, looking vpon your eyes mee thought  
Heauen opened to discover a greater gloze, and Angel's  
tyling there tooke from my iudgement all things else  
done out of that blessed compasse, but mine amaze-  
ment became my death, and my death must be your Triumph,  
for how euer the conflict appeared, your glances which  
were the wounding weapons, stricke through my weake  
light, and slew my heart, though armed in the strongest  
fort of my bosome; I am not so happie as to be a prisoner  
(for there were hope) but so infortunate to die in despair,  
that to haue the monument of my remembrance erected in  
the Temple of your pittie, is the utmost asme my blisse  
lookes to; the crueltie of faire ones hath pronounced my iudg-  
ment, and saith, it is impossible to affect where they haue  
not sene: Oh set me in this sorrowfull paper, (you fairest  
of adored beauties) and let that light moue affection, affec-  
tion knowledge, knowledge pittie, and pittie that worke of  
the highest, which is onely to doe miracles, so shall crueltie  
giue himselfe the lie, proue you a goodesse, and make mee  
(the happiest of men) a trumpet of your renoune and glo-  
rie: My loue is like your goodnesse without parallel, my  
saith shall goe beyond that loue, and my seruice crowne  
both with an infinite merit. This is my sacrifice, which if  
you accept, (excellentest of faire beauties, and innobled  
with all rich perfections) I live, if otherwise, my loy is, I  
perish by so excellent a creature.

From Dover  
Iune 9. 1628.

Prepared to suffer.

I. S.

*He*

*Her answer.*

Sir, he that of a light blow with the eye, makes a deadly wound at his heart, is either too vnworthily faint, or much too superstitious in the signes and planetes; for mine owne part, my knowledge assures mee I am free from any such malignant influence: I confesse a weake appetite vnguarded with iudgement, may oft stumble and receiue knockes: nay sometimes fall to vtter ruine; and to giue to that weaknesse the gouernment of my fortune, were to rob my selfe of all good mens pities. In my worst mischances, the ill I cause nor, reason cannot blame me, if I cure not, since what is without me, nothing appertaines vnto mee, but you will make my beauty guiley, poore nothing. how pittifully art thou flattered; which being a mere Chymere of imagination, hath not any thing in thee, but the strength of folly, and mans fancy; it is not a substance, for then it might be felt, let loose or restrained; it hath no certaine shape, for then all men would like one figure; nor hath it any abiding, for then it would euer bee found in its owne mansion; it is not compounded of perfit colours. for then no man wou'd dote of mixt deformities, nor doth it subsist of reall vertues, for then no man would wed with the vicious: to conclude, it is nothing hath hurt you, and that nothing I send to cure your rashnesse shall not breed my repentance: your loue is too infinite, your faith too worthy, and your seruice too rich; a meauer propoition will guard safest a meane fortune; and so wishing your great sacrifice to a greater deitie, I rest,

*Your best Counsellor.**Canterbury.*

A. N.

C

To

To his Mistress that was of wanton and  
light carriage.

**B**ECAUSE my bow of love (my sometimes dearly beloved  
mistress) hath made me your friend, therefore the care  
of your honour shall make me your counsellor; whether it  
come reasonably or no, examine your heart, that it comes  
freely and with a wholesome intent, truth be my witness.  
It is told me (mistress) that your actions are publicly no-  
ted: for their continualness leamy, and your wanton light-  
ness is so marked by your beholders, that contempt is be-  
come your onely companion. your apperell is like your  
minte: unconstant and welcome, and dyes rather ad-  
miration then reverence. toys are your studies, and vani-  
ties your pleasures, so that making your selfe a slave to plea-  
sure, you have forgotten the violence of misfortune. if this  
bee true (my dearly beloved mistress) then in this I must  
perish. since living in you, your least fall wounds both me  
and mine honour: I know you are faire and young: but if  
you cloath them here with vices, what will you weare in  
the grave, but infamie: life runs without set, misfortune  
strikes without an alarme, and the gloie of vanities braks  
like a bubble, and leaves nothing behind but the print of  
disgrace: it is too much to be still on, for the still is ne-  
ver forgotten, and it is too little not to be ever good, since  
the smallest blot dashes all out of remembrance. I would I  
could as easilie excuse you, as fame is apt to accuse you: par-  
don me if I be too bold in writing, it is urged by a too much  
boldnesse in action, the one made good, the other shall be  
gracious beyond expectation; till then give my pen leave to  
keepe my heart from breaking.

Farndon.  
Apr. 1628.

Your grieved friend,

cT

A. Z.

He

*Her Answer.*

A Zeale that is kindled (my best seruant) with the false fire of mens reports, is rather held a superstition, then an honest deuotion; for it both wrongs truth, and wounds an innocent reputation; and those light beleeuers, which build faith on such weake grounds, deserue nothing but a general nomie and contempt: til now you accuse my life in your absence, where was your iudgment when I walkt in your presence? O be not so false to the worth of your owne truth, to say you could not see that which all the world hath discouered, or if you did, to be so blind to affect a thing vnworthy, but it may be, absence hath begotten new thoughts, those thoughts new affection, and that affection must needs finde a new quarrell with old friendships: if it be so, your owne course lead you. I freely confesse I am not such a begger that can weare rags, such a miser that can eate roots, nor so subtil to speake like a Iugler, with a reed in my mouth: Truth I serue, freedome I loue, and plainnesse is my condition. If these haue taste you cannot relish; you must in some other soyle seek new comforts, for mine owne part I will be no bondslau to opinion, till I know it constant, nor no seruant of the time, till it be vncorrupt, and more honest. As for my life, had it for euery feather a wing, and my fortune double so many hazards, yet will I bring the one to my graue with honour, and make the other ashamed with my sufferance. I rest,

Maidston,  
May. 7.

Your iniured mistress:

D. P.

C :

A

A desperate Lover to his *quondam* Mistress.

I shall be vertue in you (sairell) to receive my despaires  
I though you receive no comforts, and if in the reading  
you bestow a sigh to my remembrance, it is a barge that  
shall make me for ever sleepe in quiet: despaire long since  
gave me woe, and obedience onely shall make my  
death patient: it is necessary I die for you, since fate de-  
vies me to live with you, for my selfe is such an interposi-  
tion betwixt you and your glorie, that my griefes would  
keepe much of your sunne eclipsed: I know my wants,  
and that there is nothing either in my life or fortune to de-  
serve you, onely an infinite desire, which but by death can  
never be lessened, then since all things suit with my de-  
spaires, be all delaies with your love (ever sacre from me)  
and let the world onely remember this in my Epitaph,  
that it was not my folly, but your will; not my despaire,  
but truth in obedience: But if this is that I should doe,  
not speake: and the musicks in mans throat for your eare,  
then your love for my heart: pardon my tell-tale sovrain,  
it rather speaks things fit to be done, then done, and will  
sometime crane the glorie in with then action, and yet the poi-  
son of disdaine is so violent, I know it will kill me, and  
kill me it shall, for my comforts are already consumed,  
and in that consumption let all things but my memento  
turne to its first Chaos, and so live as happie as I unfor-  
tunate:

Onely in remembrance.

Northampton,  
Septemb. 6.

F. I.

Ho



*His Answer.*

**H**OW much I stand divided with the unreasonable-  
ness of your affection, my distracted writing may witness;  
wherein I can observe no order, because nothing in your de-  
sires holds good proportion, you bid me love, and will not  
heare when destiny denies it, and you seeke that rule from  
me, which is quite taken out of my knowledge (damsie Sir)  
awaken vp your first wisdom, and tye your actions on pro-  
vidence, then shall you see I have lesse power to draw on  
mine, then you to withdraw your affection: will you make  
beauty such a slave, that it must obey every gaze, or the  
poore owner so unfortunate, that she must be sitilla to the  
desire of any wilfull longing, then so, how much safer were  
it to be foule and fortunate? But you will dye, woe me that  
folly should make you so impudent, to boast you dare doe  
a sinne so damnable; but I know you will dye but as actors  
dye, in one scorne and reuiue in the next, to make it more  
glorious, thus to dye I allow you, and so such I will giue a  
smile for pitty: to any other a charitable teare, to thinke that  
any Gentleman should become a traitor to Nature. Lastly,  
let me win you by the loue you boast of, neuer henceforth  
to sollicite me, for as no reliefe can come from such vaine  
labour, so nothing but great disdain will grow from my  
vexation: So hoping you will make that hope desperate,  
which is without all hope of vertue, I rest,

Your chaff friend.

Rowel March 7.

P. C.

C

A

A Letter of true kindnesse.

**I**f some Nature had bene pleased to haue made my bosome transparent, your eies should see the secrets of my heart, which if it haue any happiness in the world, it is in the hope of your fauour: but amazed with the admiration of your worth, I know not what to say of your worthiness, but onely this, that finding the due of your desert exceeding my capacitie in commendation, I wil leaue the excellencie thereof to more honourable inuention, and thinke fortune enough fauourable, if shee prefer my seruice to your commandement: presents I haue none worthy the sending, but the heart of my loue at your employment which being nothing more then what you will, I rest, sure one and the same.

Your seruant.

W. W.

Her Answer.

**I**f your speeches be led by your thoughts, it is needlesse to desire a transparencie in your bosome, for when as the heart and the tongue agree together, then mens protestations are followed with reall performance: words of admiration trouble discretion, in construction, and eloquence in loue hath not the best commendation, inuentions are ready where fancy is studious, but where wit is vertuous, there is will gracious: your present most worthy of all acceptance, cannot be better requised then thankfully remembered, and if conceits meet in a mutuall content, what comfort may follow, I leaue to the heauens fauour, and so I rest,

Your friend.

A. W.

## Cupids Messenger.

19

A Letter of counsell from a discrete mother to  
her daughter newly married.

**M**y good daughter: thou art now going into the world,  
and must leane to be a chile, and learne to be a mo-  
ther, and looke to a familie, rather then to the entertain-  
ment of a friend, and yet both necessarie, in their kinds:  
finde the disposition of thy husband, and in any wise moue  
not his impatiencie, let thy kindnesse bind his loue, thy  
vertue his comfort, thy husbandrie his commendations:  
auoid tattling gossips, yet be kind to thy neighbours, and  
no stranger to thy kindred: be gentle to thy seruants and  
not ouer familiar: haue an eye to thy doore, and a locke to  
thy chest: keepe a bit for begger, and a bone for a dog:  
cherish the Mare that brings home honie, and make much  
of the Cocker that makes much of his Chickens, take heed  
abroad of the Mite, and within of the Kat: pray to God for  
his blessings on all thy proceedings, and haue a religious  
care of thy modest government: and rather for charitie  
then praise, giue reliefe vnto the poore: if at any time thou  
hast need of any good I can doe thee, be assured whilst thou  
hast a mother, thou hast a friend: so hoping in thy kind-  
nesse, thou wilt take care of thy counsell, beseeching God  
to bleesse thee, that I may euer haue joy of thee, with my  
heart's loue, to thy tuition I leave thee.

Thy most louing mother.

R. S.

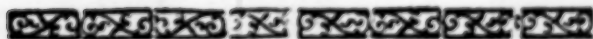
*Her Answer.*

**M**y good Mother: I haue passed the yeares of a childe,  
and know the care of a mother, and therefore for your  
kind aduise for my cariage I thank you, and what benefite I  
will

will make of your lessons, you shall finde in the fruit of my obseruation, I am but newly come into the world, and God knowes when I shall goe out of it, and am yet scarce warme in my house, and therefore hardly know yet how to goe through it. For my husbands humour, if he alter not his nature, I doe not doubt but wee shall liue as Doves, while care and kindnesse shall continue content; my seruants shall find me both a mistris and a friend; my neighbours no strangers, and idle gossips no companion. Thus in the dury of loue, with thanks for your motherly care, in prayer to the Almighty to blesse me with his gracie, and to liue no longer then in his loue and yours: I take my leave, for this time, but rest during life,

*Your most loving daughter,*

P. E.



A Letter in case of wrong supposed to  
be committed.

**S**Ir, your Letter is more troublesome to my conceit then  
savouring (as I am credibly led to thinke) of that your  
wonted most noble disposition unto me I haue received.  
With what supposition and vnaccustomed grieke I haue  
retained them, I referre to any one (guiltlesse accused and  
suspended from so high fauours, as formerly by your bounty  
to me haue bene perfoirmed) simply to bee considered.  
Long was it ere I could satisfie my selfe by any access  
that might be, to profer my selfe of these humbled Letters  
unto you, yet neuertheless weighing how farre different  
those new occurrences were from those your ancient fauours,  
I furnished with my selfe that the indignation proceeded  
solely from others, hardly perchance bearing those graces  
wherewith

### Cupids Messenger.

21

wherein I stood with you, and becoming thereupon my bitter enemies, the sinister devils wherof stood upon me wholly to overthrowe as impugne. For which having no other nor better meanes at this time then these submissions lines, I purpose them unto you as solicitous of your former liking, confessing if in any waies I have erred unto you, as I will not utterly excuse my selfe from every error, it was but as a young man rather by ignorance then of malice any way to be intended: as touching any other objection, let me but crave pardon to have access unto your presence, and then iudge as you finde me: two waies are only left, my access to my face, or mine owne simplicitie to cleare me. This is all I require, and so much I hope you will not deny me: wherewith resting in one acknowledgement of that your former bounty, I humbly surcease, this  
15 of Decemb. 1628.

### Years to command

**T. D.**

**A Letter from a Sergeant to his M. Am.**

Sir, my humble duties remembered, unto you: your doing  
good merris. You may please to understand that I have  
dispatcht the business unto Walter C. Esq; the money you  
sent me for, and have given him an acquaintance for the  
same, and according to your good conceits have thus done:  
I have bought for you twelve gallons of the best Sherry,  
and eightene gallons of Claret, and fiftene yards of fine  
Tweed cloth, and thirtie ells of fine Holland all which I  
hope by Gods grace shall come unto your hands: I have  
sent you also here inclosed your Bill of parcels, and their  
severall prices.

D

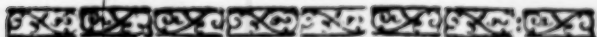
3

## Cupids Messenger.

I write formerly unto you for certaine commodities out of the Country, which I haue now receiued by the Carrier. Here is at this present small newes woorth the writing vnto you: wherfore praying vnto all Almighty God for the health and prosperitie of you and all yours, I humbly take my leaue, and rest,

Your faithfull and ready seru-  
uant to command,

I. P.



An answer of a Letter for courtesie  
and fauour receiued,

**M**y good friend M. G. how much I am bound vnto you for multitude of fauours, and especially for that you haue made choise of me, as to write your kinde and friendly Letters in my behalf, I can no other waies express, than to continue your affectionate poore friend, and will for euer acknowledge it, as of your great kindeesse be- yond any merit of mine owne, and as by duty I am bound, no day shall passe me that I will not pray to God for your health and prosperitie, and the redoubling of your daies: beseeching you to excuse me in that in person I cannot doe as persons what I desire, by reason at this time some haue extraordinary will not permit me. I therefore most humbly take my leaue of you, this 14. day.

Your affectionate poore  
friend,

P. C.

The

# Cupids Messenger. 23

The Fathers Letter against the Sonne.

**T**he sight of your Letters and message received by your  
 servant, haue (good Cousen) bled to me in perusing  
 and hearkning vnto the same no small matter of disquiet:  
 not that your letters or messages for themselves are or  
 haue bene at any time ill welcome to my hands, but in re-  
 spect of him for whom they come, so filled haue I bene long  
 since with the evils by him committed. I am nothing ig-  
 norant that of mereloue and good will you framed your  
 speech vnto me in the behalfe of my vngacious sonne. I  
 needs not repeat here vnto you with what fatherly care I  
 haue brought him vp to mans estate how likewise I sought  
 both with maintenace and place of credit to continue him  
 as a Gentleman. I placed him with a right goodly and  
 worshipfull knight Sir T. H. who for my sake loued him,  
 and I know took paines to refoyme him. Complaints  
 were infinite against him. This man could not be quiet for  
 him, that mans seruants he misused: this party he decei-  
 ued, and others hi-ly wronged. Whence which, too much to  
 be reuealed. how subboynly in mine owne house, how in-  
 iuriously amonst mine owne people hath he behaued him-  
 selfe. And bee in se it was against Christmas, and I would  
 not dismisse him vnfurnished, I gaue him for himselfe and  
 his man a couple of good Seldings, and twentie pound in  
 his purse: he was no sooner gone twentie miles, but spent  
 his money at Cards and Dice, palmed his apparell, sold his  
 Selouings, and in the end comming to one of my tenants to  
 borrow money. which he denied to lend him, he fell vpon  
 him and beat him. Thus (loving Cousen) you see in part  
 his ill led life, and may thereby conuerue my grieffe. Wen-  
 ding in the meane time my commendations and earnest  
 thanks for your care of my well being, to you and your bed-  
 fellow. This 20 Aug. 1618.

T. R.

D 2

The

*The answer.*

**I**HAVE received your letter (my kind vncke) in answer  
to the last letter I sent, which was the business of your son.  
I am very fory that a Gentleman of your grauity and know-  
ledge in the world, and for the good estimation that the  
country hath of you, that Master F. C. your sonne should  
deale so vnkindly with you. I know your fatherly care of  
him from time to time, and how diligent, and not sparing  
any cost in bringing him vp; and to place him with a gentle-  
man of the best ranke in all the country was nobly done,  
yet with all you might (if so you please) doe well to consider  
he is your owne sonne, and if you looke into your owne  
youth, you shall finde these were your youthfull straines,  
and so much the more to bee borne withall, and time and  
age will tame all these things in an ingenious and witty  
Gentleman. I desire you for my sake retaine him kindly in-  
to your fauour this once more, for he hath (vpon the repu-  
tation of a Gentleman) promised neuer to doe the like enor-  
mities, but to liue as a most dutifull and louing sonne: and  
for the same I dare passe my credit. I pray you entertaine  
him respectfully, and I will euer remaine,

*Your louing kinsman,*

T. F.

To



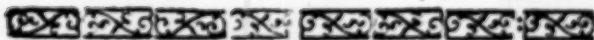
To his mistress (*quondam*) having spent all his meanes  
vpon her in prosperitie, he being imprisoned  
she forsake him.

**I**f my paper were made of the skins of croaking Toades,  
so speckled Adders, my inke of the blood of Scorpions,  
my penne pluckt from the crack-choles wings, they were  
but fit instruments to write vnto thee, that art more ve-  
nerous, more poisonous, more ominous, then the worst of  
these: so doe but descend into the depth of thy guilty con-  
science, and see how manie oathes, promises, and deepe  
protestations, nay millions of oathes hast thou sworne thy  
fidelity vnto me, which one day will witness against  
thee. If I should speake with the voice of Thunder, as  
loud as the noise of the Summers thunder, yet could I  
not proclaim vnto the world thy infinite basenesses, I  
being so firme and constant vnto thee when I sworne in  
the golden floods of prosperitie, then wast thou (as often  
thou dost protest) firme and constant vnto me. But when  
the water began to ebbe, and my ship run on ground, then  
(like thy selfe) thou forsookest me. At first thy love was as  
hot to me as an Italian to a wench of Astarie, but when  
my gold was spent and consumed, then thy love grew as  
cold to me as a fishmongers fingers are in a great frost.  
Doe not thinke I write this vnto thee to be a meane to  
helpe me in this my great distresse and imprisonment: so  
know thou though all my friends haue forsaken me, nay  
though death, griefe, affliction, and all the miseries that  
possibly can befall a miserable man in this wretched world  
while he liueth here, and all these griefes doe euerie minute  
torment me, yet I had rather fall by their force, then rise  
by thy assistance, so hatefull, grievous, so loathsome, so  
furious and so incomparably abominable is thy very name  
vnto me.

Leprosie compared to this, is all health, and all manner of infection but a flea-biting, and all manner of diseases, though they were fetched from twentie Hospitals, were but like the fit of an Ague: for thou art all Leprosie, all diseases, for neither thy bodie nor thy soule are free, thy body from the disease of shame and disgrace of the world, nor thy soule free from the sickness of sinne. God amend and pardon this.

Once thy friend.

I. P.



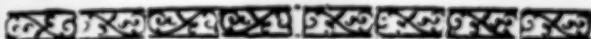
To his friend lying long sicke.

**M**y worthy friend Passer Prince: though the distance of place be such, that we cannot heare one another, you in the center of the Kingdome (London) I at Yorke, yet you shall see me in my Letter, my tongue, my penne, my heart, are all your servants. You plainly perceiue a long lingering sickness will bring you to a long desired rest, where long your mind hath had his residence. You now perceiue Faine is but smoke, mettals but dross, pleasure but a pill with sugar. All these earthly delights if they were sound, how short they are, lasting every day: they are but as a good day betwixt two Agues, or like Sodomes Apples, faire red outside, being handled are blacke with. I admire the faith of Moses, but presupposing his faith, I wonder not at his choice, that he preferred the afflictions of Israel to the pleasures of Egypt, and chose rather to eate the Lambe with sowe herbes, then all their flesh-pots. What God hath giuen you a vertuous wife, dutifull children, wealth in abundance, an honest estate and good repute amongst your neighbours, and the generall loue of your countie

countrie where you live, are favours that looke for; thanks.  
 Who would desire to live, that knowes his Saviour died,  
 who can be a Christian and would not be like him? Could  
 you be happy and not die: indeed Nature knowes not what  
 she would have. Our friends of this world can neither a-  
 bide to be miserable in our stay, nor happy in our departure.  
 What God hath given you on earth, is nothing to that he  
 will give you in heaven: you are a stranger here: there at  
 home. There Saints and Angels shall applaud you, there  
 God himselfe will fill you with himselfe: have patience in  
 all afflictions, and read the troubles of Iob, and in that  
 exercise your selfe both day and night, untill God shall ei-  
 ther mend or end these your daies on earth. To which  
 great God and mercifull Lord I commit you, praying for  
 your eternall rest.

Remaining your friend,

I. M.



A Letter wherein is recommended to a Nobleman  
 from his inferiour the conditions and  
 behaviour of a person.

**M**ay it please your Lordship, this Gentleman the bearer  
 hereof, with whom along time I have bene acquaint-  
 ed, and of his qualities and good behaviour have found  
 and large experience, having bene a good time a Inter unto  
 me to move this preferment unto your Lordships service,  
 I have now at last consended unto, as well for that I  
 know your Lordship to be now presently disurnished of  
 such a one, as also that there will hardly be preferred upon  
 the sudden any one so meet as himselfe to supply that place.  
 And thus much by your pardon and allowance dare I as-  
 sure

sure write you, that if it may please you in credit of my simple knowledge and opinion to employ him, you shall finde that, besides he is in parentage descended from such of whom I know your Lordship will very well account of, he is also learned, discreet, sober, wise, and moderate in all his actions, of great secreesse, assured trust, and well governed in all companies. Finally, a man so met and to this present turne so apt and necessarie, as I cannot easily imagine how you may be served better. Please your Lordship the rather, for the great good will I beare him, and humble duty I owe unto you, to accept, employ, and account of him: I nothing doubt but your Lordship having by such meanes given credit to my choice, shall finde him such as for whose good service you shall have further occasion to thinke well of me for him. Whereof nothing doubting, I doe referre both him and my selfe, in all humblenes to your best and most favourable opinion. From my house in Arthingworth, this 5 of June.

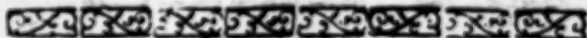
## The Answer.

**A**FTER my hearty commendations vnto you, Sithence the receipt of your last letters and commendations of W. R. into my service, I have had small occasion either to write or to send vnto you till this present; and for as much as vpon your certaine notice delivered vnto me in fauour of his preferment, I held my selfe so well assured in all things of his behaviour, as I doubted not thereupon to receive him into place of greatest fidelity, I have thought good hereby to let you vnderstand, what great pleasure I have taken in his diligent attendance, assuring you, for many v unexpected qualities, which I haue proued to be in him, and that with so good affection as that I intend not omit any thing that may tend to his aduancement. In beholding of him oftentimes, methinkes he many waies doth resemble his father, whose sound truth I doe suppose might haue bene entertained

## Cupids Messenger. 29

ned with the best for his well deseruing: this bearer shall in-  
forme you of two speciall causes concerning my affaires in  
the countrie, whom I doe pray you to conferre wih, and to  
afford him your travell for his present dispatch, which I  
will not fail: heartily to requite vnto you. For your care had  
of my want, and diligent supply of such a one, I doe many  
times thanke you, and haue promised in my selfe to become  
a debter vnto you. And euen so I bid you heartily farewell.

From the Court this 3. of  
May, 1628.



A merry Letter to his friend in London.

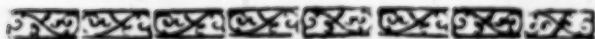
Heroicall spirit:  
I have receiued your Epistle of alacritie and remembrance  
I much indebted to your kinde heart for touching me to  
poore countrey dwaines so much of the labour of your pen  
to deceine slow-footed time withall: Thanks vnto the  
Almightie, I haue had my health indifferent well since my  
comming downe onely the separation of my second selfe  
hath bene a continuall sickness vnto me: to remedie which  
I haue hitherto found out no better way then to call for a  
cup of Rubeolar, to helpe to exhilarate and corroborate my  
fatigated spirits. The sturdiours are verie barren of any  
noueltie worthy the presenting to your curious understand-  
ing, but doe presume out of the bundle of your affection  
that you that lye at the weis head will be pleased to done  
safe vs your poore friends a report by your Letters, at least  
of such Exchange newes as passeth currant amongst you,  
which wee shall take as a speciall fauour from you and re-  
die how to remunerate. We are at this present putting foot  
into the ship, and riding some dozen hoise of vs to a ma-  
ritime coast, where there will be provided for vs all the cari-  
ties

ties say fish the Sea can afford, where I will not bee  
mindfull to remember all your healths in a full ocean. In  
the meane time commending my love to my loving sister  
your wife, with your worthie selfe and all our friends, I  
wish you all true happinesse suitable to a brave disposition,  
and will euer rest,

Your assured loving

Brother.

R. S.



A Letter gratulatorie.

Good Mr. P.

I am yet to learne the phrase and method how to write to  
so beneficent a friend as your selfe, to whom I stand  
obliged more by desert then I can answer with requitall,  
and more in affection then I am able to merit: a predicament  
it is into which I am easilie and often (as it were)  
precipitated, and out of which to raise my selfe fortune only  
hath disabled me, who if with her gifts she had supplied my  
wants, and given me competent wealth to the freedom of  
my will: my honest heart should not be debtoꝝ to the hand  
of any, nor should my disability curbe the scope of my af-  
fection: but since wishes are but vaine, I pray you accept  
these my lines as tokens of the remuneration of my thanks  
and the acknowledgement of the love of

Your humble servant.

D. P.

# Cupids Messenger.

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A Letter to his silent friend.

**Y**OU are happily innocent (dearest friend) what paine I am in, and with what uncess I spend my itchesome daies, through your parcimoniousnesse, and sparing of a little inke and paper: Is it not enough that I am deprived of your sight, but I must be also unsaluted by your Letters, one of them alone doth too weightily appeale me with sorrow, and overthrowe my heart with disquietnesse. No place hath wrought a separation betwixt our bodies, will you permit also that a few daies absence shall burie each others remembrance in the Lethargie houses of oblivion; oh be not so inturious unto sacred friendship, which is the greatest joy allotted unto mortall men in all the Universe: I haue got the start of you in writing, but I hope I shall not need to send you any more expostulatory Letter for your slacknesse in this kind. For the sound state of my body I am well, yet I cannot be said to be perfectly well, being (as I am) so solicitous for your welfare, and so ignorant of your health, who are some diuident me.

farewell.

Anima dimidium tum.

L.M.

*For Answer, excusing his not writing.*

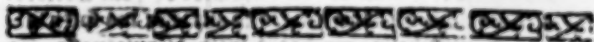
**L**ET the multitude of my busineses and my want of bodily health, and debilitie, plead my excuse with you for my remissenesse in writing. The drift of these present lines is to apologize for that I writ to you no sooner, and to enquire of your health and welfare. Compare not, nor doe not thinke my loue as little as my writing, for I protest vnfainedly, that if I may stead you in any kind, or if my meanes can procure any thing to make a clearer manifestation of my

E s

man.



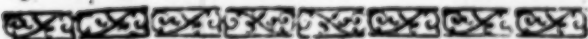
manifest have you shall assuredly find whensoever any occasion shall offer itselfe to you, to make what great interest you have in me and my best affection, I craue, your assistance (which I desire) in procuring the same. I am, Sir, your most humble servant, W. W.



A Letter expostulatory for breach of promise.

I had bene more honeste in you to haue given mee a speedy deniall, then not to performe what you so constantlie promised mee, for then you had not injured mee, because you had not owed me any thing. A promise is debt: for I yet hope you are none of the number of those men who thinke promises doe not bind them unto performance: this is my helpe of you yet, it is in your power to make me hold as alter my opinion. I onely desire thus much of you, if you will not doe me that good turne, yet leaue doing me iniurie: send me not with imp:officient words, but bid mee not trust any longer to vaine hopes. In briebe, you shall much oblige me by doing that kinnesse, by omission thereof you shall make me muse at the laske of your fidelitie, and at your carelesnesse to incurre the report and infamie of a dishonest man.

Your injured friend.  
H. G.



To his friend false to poverty.

If your weath had bene the foundation of my loue, I  
shoud now cease to loue, because you are no longer rich,  
but



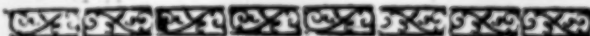
## Cupids Messenger.

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but should I now so erre, I should shew my selfe to have  
burne unto you in your prospectie not a friend, but (like  
unto the rest that have derelinqvished you in your power-  
tie) a more flatterer: when as both during the summer  
time the Swallowes flie to our houses; we may observe  
how swifte will be sure to get into the barns that is reple-  
nished with corne. and while the pot hath any hony it is  
hard keeping the flies away: but care in the friendshippe  
which lasts not in the probation time of aduersitie. Be-  
sides that youe consist of aduersitie, paine, I lend you the  
summe of twentie pence, which so long make use of till  
X time, the mother o' of mutations, increase your rage with  
a proportion able to make repentment to.

Your friend to his  
abillie.

I. R.



A Letter of a Gentlewoman to a Gentleman with  
whom she fell in love.

**I**f ever I could with my selfe be woe (most worthy Sir)  
as my well being taken from mee, I call truth and my  
sometimes modestie to witnesse, it is now: not that I have  
found you, but that I am forced thus to seek you. Call to  
mind (faire, and I hope vertuous Sir) some haughty and  
violent women, taken with the love of their owne fathers,  
as was Mich, or incestuously pursuing their owne hy-  
ther, as was Biblis: so my affection will appeare more mo-  
dest, and my suite more pardonable: I dearely love you,  
(and in so saying me thinks the gods blush to heare me,) who  
in the strictest lawes of desire are most worthy to be  
loued, whose vertues might inflame a sunne, and excel-

C 3

lentest

gentest qualities take the most retired : If I haue (as I know too well I haue) contrarie to the nature and custome of Virgins, our, shot my selfe in my violent passions, pardon her that had rather dis then make it knowne, yet chuseth rather to make it knowne, then not enioy you so desired, and farre more worthy to be desired. If you were acquainted w<sup>th</sup> what afflictions I suffer in my discovery, yet fearing all well not serue, you will, I hope, rather incline to pitie, then disdaine: little will the death of a filly madden annale the triumph of your beautie, and the overthrow of my credit lesse benefit your vertue. Waite me from the one by your loue, & assure me from the other by your seruice: whilst I will euer remaine a most constant votarie to all your perfections, blessing the parents that left behind them such an issue.

Akhorp. May 22.

Neuer lesse her owne.

R. D.

*His Answer.*

**H**OW happie may I account my selfe (sweetest of creatures, and beautifulest of women) that hauing bound my selfe in the search and pursuite of a icwell, haue it now offered and giuen into my hands, farre aboue my expectation; farre transcending my hopes; I accept it as louingly, as you freely bestow it, and will account it no lesse deare and precious, then if much time and long labour had beene the purchase of it, esteeming it a blessing throwne vpon me, by the appointment of the highest, and suitable to my happy desires. Nor shall I need to load my memory with those horrid examples, to give your loue a freer and welcomer passage into the very depth of my loue and choicest desires: to loue we were made, and by loue we are made: they onely are without being that haue not the heavenly taste and enioying

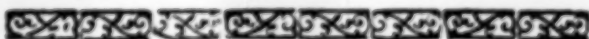
## Cupids Messenger.

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saying of it, I onely deny those excellencies which you lay  
to my vnguiltly charge, it was the reflection of your owne  
worth (strucken from me) which hath *Narcissus*-like so in-  
amoured you, it was your owne image shewne in my eyes,  
which hath thus captiuared you: which since you like in  
so dim and dull a myrrour, I will cherish, and make much of  
it onely for your sake, that you may the perfectlier see your  
selfe, and the more loue me: for your loue, take all I am, for  
my secrecie, I will not breathe it to my selfe how I attaine  
this happinesse, but liuing and dying, rest the true honou-  
rer and admirer of your worth and vertue,

*Yours more then his owne.*

H. H.



A Letter from a Chapman in the Country to a  
Tradesman in London.

**M**y loving and kind friend M. G. you haue done me  
much wrong in detaining the wares I wist for: I  
haue disappointed some Gentlemen in relying vpon you,  
whose custome hath much advantaged me: my credit I  
hope will euer be above that value: and my dealing for  
much more yearly betwene vs might without other cir-  
cumstances therein haue satisfied you: I must tell you  
plaine, in the countrie there are many good men, whose  
estates are knowne very sufficient, which cannot raise  
money vpon their credit in an instant: we want a common  
banke with vs which might furnish vs suddenly and chea-  
rfully: Shoakers trade not here, nor Tinslers take their  
place, but in summer for their recreation: thinke, friend,  
me an honest man, and so you haue much cause to thinke:  
confident in which, though my estate were little, (as I

thanke God I know it is sure : you may be armed, I will  
 neuer faile nee deceiue you. I reue not beyond my com-  
 passe, neither make a sure foundation out of other mens  
 crimes, but content with a little. leaving a blessing to my  
 children, and a good memorie amongst my neighbours. Let  
 me heare from you concerning the cause of this breach, and  
 a note of the reckoning betwene vs, which I will make  
 euen, and rather cost honest then rich.  
 Septemb. 6.

Your true friend as you  
 shall vie me,

L. M.

*The Answer.*

**M**After M. truly it much grieues me you were so disap-  
 pointed, and the negligence of my man went not a-  
 way unpunished, by whose default the Carrier went with-  
 out them: beleue me on my word, and I account my selfe  
 happier in being a master of that, then in much riches, no fear  
 of payment, nor least doubt of your estate was any hindrance  
 to it: I haue well knowne you by others, and haue had so  
 much experience of you my selfe, that you shall sooner want  
 occasion for wares, then I confidence to trust you: your  
 neighbours speake much good of you, and all men that  
 know you giue you a faire report, which makes me happie  
 both in your custome and friendship. If sinister occasions  
 shall any time happen (as while wee are here they are inci-  
 dent vnto vs) I shall rather pittie your fortunes then call in  
 question your faire dealings. And know we are all men ac-  
 countable every instant for all our possessions. The Carrier  
 this weeke brings those commodities, and better and more  
 vendible you neuer had of me, and I verily beleue the  
 Gentleman will thinke themselves happily repaid in the stay  
 with the exceeding goodnetie and lastingnetle of the wares.

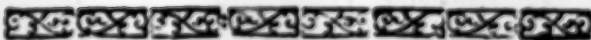
For

## Cupids Messenger. 37

For your reckonings at my leifure I will perufe and fend them, in whose place receiue my kind commendations, and encrety for my mans carelesneffe, I bid you most heartily farewell.

*Your friend as you knew.*

I. G.



A Letter of thankfulness for kindnesse shewed  
to his Sonne.

**S**ee, the fauours you haue already done me. and of such  
Seruice and merit, that I shall neuer be at quiett untill I  
haue made some requittall of them. I am a shame, you  
should be thus continually troubled with a sonne of mine,  
whom I haue charged to obey you in al things as my selfe,  
and I see you doe so much as haue a carefull hand ouer  
him, as if you were his father, or yet your onely childe: I  
kindly and heartily thanke you for the apparell you haue  
made him in. which is decent, comely, and profitable,  
and the monie you haue paid for him: you may accommo-  
date him with the rest if you thinke it fitting: so my part  
I giue you all power and authoritie ouer him, seeing you  
are pleased to take the trouble upon you. So wishing but  
to meet with some good occasion that may lie in my poore  
power, to acknowledge how much I am beholding vnto  
you, I for this time commit you to the protection of the Al-  
mighty. Resting

Your assured louing  
friend,

D. R.

F

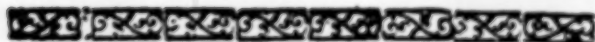
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*The Answer.*

**M**After *B.* I haue receiued your Letter concerning your son. Sir, for any fauour I can doe you, either in this or any other, I shall be right willing, knowing how much from time to time I and mine are bounden vnto you. And assure your selfe it shall be no trouble vnto me to vse the best of my counsell and care ouer him. For his apparell, it will keepe him warme, I know, which is the principall thing I ayme at, and I hope pleasing to him and his friends. The other money I shall deliuer him as I shall see good both for himselfe to vse, and the credit of you his father. Moreouer (Sir) he is to me very dutifull and louing, by which he shall lose nothing in my care of his welfare, and hee very well spends his time at Schoole, and to good purpose I hope, wherein I doubt not you shall haue great comfort. He be- haueh himselfe so well by his good demeanure to all, that he is generally beloued of all my neighbours. For my power and authoriry ouer him; I will imploy my selfe onely for his good, and your fatherly care committed to me. And so with a thousand commendations I commit you to God.

Your friend,

I.D.



A Letter to his Mistresse in the Country that desired newes from the Citie.

**M**ost excellent mistris, your command (which is to me a law) binds me to obey you, and though the task be infinite hard to containe so great a beast in so little space yet for your satisfaction, I will delineate to life the

proportion of some of his members. It is nowes you desire:  
 g believe me (saie one) Since I came into the Citie, I have  
 not seene or heard any thing old; euen from the Capitoll,  
 to the Cottage, all things are in their new garments, the  
 Court hath new favourites, the Citie a new Senate, and  
 the Common-wealth new officers: the first are as great as  
 good, the second are as rich as wise, and the third as alwe-  
 full as lust: Men are new, so; where they should loue they  
 feare, women are new, so; where they should honour they  
 subdue, and children are new, so; where they should reue-  
 rence they astonish, Customes and manners are new, so;  
 the poore daily feed the rich, the rich cozen the great, and  
 the great make fooles of the good ones. The fashions  
 though they were neuer old, are now neuer then euer,  
 so; in man and woman there is not a point to chuse betwixt  
 the sexes, the one hath descended so much downward, and  
 the other ascended so much upward, that met in one circle  
 they are both now trussed up together without difference:  
 Apparell that was made to couer, is now made to discover  
 folly and lewdnesse, and they are kinest that are nearest to  
 the naked Anatomie: Discourse is new, so; wise men talke  
 of their wealth, learned men of their deceit, and great men  
 of vanitie, Old men like old Wolues boast of their preyes  
 past, iniddle age like Lyons talke of that which is in their  
 powers, and children like dogs bark of the reuenges which  
 shall be: Our Citizens like Ases are proud of rich bur-  
 thens, and like Apes, for in pyde trapping, and out gal-  
 lants like Barte-byrtures haies byagge how much drinke  
 they can carrie. To conclude, all things are so new, that  
 euen vertue her selfe is despised in old garments, and he  
 that harpeth any phrase of his forefathers, is but a rude  
 speaker, so; to say *Mic mulier*, is now the purest and truest  
 Latine. Thus (my deare Mistresse) you haue the newest  
 floures of the season, which I write rather to keepe you in  
 your old way of vertue, then to lose your selfe in the folly  
 of imitation, I know your goodnesse, and how true a re-



Wardet it is of its owne merits. relie vpon it euer, it will make your end happy, and my life fortunate, that am thy seruant of so great a perfection.

T.W.

*Her Answer.*

**Y**OU haue sent me (worthy seruant) my desire backe with so great an interest, that I stand two wayes fearfull how to receiue it, either to incurre the suspicion of too greedy an inquiry, or the enny of a weake nature, that is pleased with detraction: from both which I am free, in as much as my syme is held within the leuell of modesty. I confesse, the parts you haue giuen mee may belong to a best, or rather a Monster, for the shape hath little proportion: yet I haue heard of excellent Painters which haue made curious peeces of perspective, that beheld with a liberall eye on the plaine Table, hath appeared vgly and most deformed, but the sight strained and drawne into a more seuer and narrow compasse it hath bene beautifull, and in the glory of the best perfection: such, I feare, was the picture from whom you tooke your copie, and looking vpon it the wrong way, you saw the lines, but not the beautie. I doe confesse, the world is olde. yet not so olde but it may continue to weare out many new garments. Age makes it subiect to sicknesse and infirmities, and what better defence then warme and sound cloathing? Sicknesse brings corruption, and ill fauours, what better prevention then much shift and many new things? so that I concludethese nouelties which you dislike are but to cure something in the world that is halthelesome. Ageing, I haue seene an Italian Comely, consisting of a louer, a woman, a zany or fool, and a deuill, and to it I my fashion the world for that the stage, the people the actors, each degree haue their zanie and their deuill, Now if the zany will steale his masters apparell, and make betwene vice and vertue no difference.

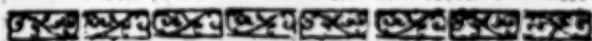


## Cupids Messenger.

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diffidence; blame not the discretion of the master, if it be  
in new fashions, till either the toadish amy be tyred, or the  
devil for his pride fetch him away, and conclude the enter-  
lude. This (my best servant) you may apply as your plea-  
sure, for mine innocence hath taught me that charitye, not to  
accuse any of that crime I would not my selfe be guiltie; nor  
is my defence an argument to draw on your silence, but ra-  
ther a motive to make you more liberall, in bestowing on  
me the rest of your collections; in which doubt not my con-  
tinuety, since no incharment can make mee forget to plea-  
se you, selfe ever worthy to be your Mistress.

M. S.



A wooing and comfortable letter to a noble widow  
that had newly lost her husband.

**T**hough (my noble Widow) I am the last that send you  
comfort, yet was I the first that felt your anguish, and  
will be the readiest of all men to serve you in your trouble:  
you have lost a dearly desired husband, and found an infinite  
way to griefe, the one is the act of Fate, and cannot be pre-  
vented, the other is the worke of Nature, and by wisdom  
must be corrected: Remember (faire Widow) who is gone  
(a good man) to whom he is gone, to a good God, and from  
whom (from a wicked World, and worse people) and  
you shall find more cause to praise heaven for his happines  
then to murmur for your losse of comfort: a good man dies  
to live, theres your my: an ill man lives to die, theres your  
anguish: the tores of marriage should be writ in Table-  
bookes, not upon paper, that Widowes might blot and  
rubbe out the writing: for they ought not to remember the  
delights past, but to meditate on pleasures to come, not to  
marrie for eternity, but during the will of heaven, neither

Have you lost my thing, so; he was but a treasure lent you, and to grieve at the repayment were to wrong your goodness with ingratitude. Welcome me Adam, were your cure in my hands, as your griefe is at my heart, neither should your anguish hurt you, nor the memory of your losse surrine a moment, but it is in heauen, and your wisdom, couple them together by yielding to providence, and you shall see your comforts flow upon you in a new tyde, you haue repented me your friend, and shap'd your best actions by my counsels, you were neuer more weake then now because alone, nor did you euer stand in more need, because many assaults are prepared against you, to keepe you then in perfect safetie, please you make me of a tryed friend, a true husband, of a faithfull counsellor, a profitable Ruler, and of an able helpe a deuout servant, I doubt not but you shall finde that armoz against all necessities, which shall both guard you against iniuries, and bring you much honour, my character you know best, so; I am no stranger, and my zeale you may iudge by my former seruices, if they appeare faithlesse before you, there will be no let but censure, which to countenance against vertue, were to be guiltie of some superstition: you are wise, and that wisdom I make my advocate, if he appoyne me worthy to be yours, my faith shall make me your truest servant among the liuing.

F. R.

*Her Answer.*

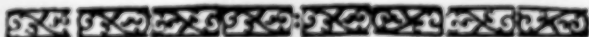
Sir, had the comforts you sent me comne in a true wedding garment, pure and of one intire stoffe: I could not haue chosen but receiued it as the rest of your chaste counsels, and fasted on it with my daily meditation, but being so disorderly patcht, I can neither beleue it is yours, nor affect that which is so vncomeely, you haue sent me delicate pills,

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pill, where though the gold be more then the poison, yet is this potion enough to confound; therefore as much as with safetie I may retaine (for your ancient friendshippe) I will keepe and studie, the rest pardon me to returne you, not out of malice to your wish, but grieve at your folly, you have told me so well the excellency of my losse, that it were madnesse in me to runne into a second hazard, and how ever you would take from widowers, the blisse of remembrance, yet deare Sir know that I can never forget this maxime, *that the death of a good husband ought not to take away the love of a chaste wife.* To conclude, what you desire is not in my power to grant, for all my love I have sent with him to the grave, whom I have lost, & to hold me without that portion, were to grasp a cloud that would bring forth a Centaure; yet from thence should either Fate, or my follies deliver it, I could not finde any more worthy then your selfe to keepe it; but the first is too constant, and the latter I hope shall never so farre rule in me: Therefore being as you were a chaste counsellor, and no seducer, you shall finde mee as you have done a faithfull Cabinet full of your goodnesse.

E. L.



Another to the same purpose.

Much honoured Mistress.

**T**He never ceasing streams of your grations kindness, hath by the often thinking on their due desertings profoundly imbosomed themselves in my gratefull affection, which no course of tedious time can extenuate, nor the longest absence by distance have power to diminish. But oh most kinde meriter of all respect, whose good will I estimate as my greatest enrichment, although the condisign requitall of such your rare courtesies lye not in the compasse  
and

and precious of my poore power, whose tenuity is not able to pay inch and exceeding tribute: yet how willing my mind is, and how inextinguishable my desires, this illiterate Cupid will testify. Which devoid of elegancies, yet full fraught with the designed profession of my lone promise, setteth the employment of my uttermost powers in all serviceable endeavors, if all that I can doe may but defray one mite of your invaluable courtesies. Command my service, there is not any thing so great that I will shrink, or so small that I will disdain to effluuate for your sake, having bowed to dye before any word issuing from your lips shall come in vaine.

But lest I should defray too much time from your more serious affairs, in all humility I take my leave.

Yours unfaindly.

P.Q.

*Her Answer.*

**T**Hough I am far from vanity to esteeme my selfe worthy of the stile or beauty, yet I see not how to excuse your sinister opinion, that would thereto annexe so great an inconuenience: for it seemes (if things might be ordered by your mind) your would have beauty and loue to be inseparable companions: oh grosse to absurd wish, and most execrable position against beauty and loue! Then any vitious, deformed or beggerly creature, being but conducted by good fortune to the view of some rare Virgin, this unworthynesse must not onely be entertained, but hee that rather deterred to be hild away with disdain, n-will straight bee made the owner and Lord of her loue: Nor shall it be in her power to reuere, vnto the presumption of indigneuery, or to make the election of a deterring personage, to honour him with her gracious saueur.

But

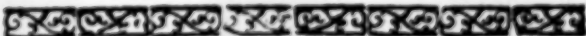
## Cupids Messenger.

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But I hope sir, being thus clearly convinced, you will  
confesse and make recantation of your error, I rest as I have  
reason.

Yours not to vse.

S. M.



A Letter of discontent after the falling out of Lovers.

Most discourteous and painted friend:

**I**T is the custome of Lovers after the breach of their  
league and amitie, to send backe those gratities which  
formerly passed as tokens of their naturall affections: you  
have taken up the sashion, and helene me I abhorre any  
longer to have nearnesse with one of your qualification,  
who so; mere trifles can dissolve the knot of friendship, and  
shake hands with familiarity. For know that your me-  
morie which was sometime deare in my thoughts, is now  
abhorred, seeing that the firmnesse and stability of affection  
(then which there is nothing ought by men more religiously  
to be observed) you have so carelessly brought to annihila-  
tion. I may parallel my present condition to the state of  
the Sunne when pitchy clouds which environing him  
round about, serve to extinguish his splendor, but time the  
perfecter of all terrestriall things, may in due season im-  
part a luster correspondent to my hopes, and suitable to my  
disposition: till when I will scorne the blasse of adversity,  
and deare all those who having little or no merits, are en-  
dowed by the dispensation of the stoly and goddesse For-  
tune with large possessions: howsoever if I can find no bet-  
ter to converse and spend my time withall then your selfe,  
I will turne Momus and so; ever hate the society of men:  
but having a better opinion of the generality, so; your part  
I calphete you with this Vhimma valr, and rest,

A stranger. A. B.

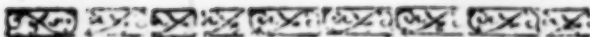
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To

To his angry Mistress, who hath  
 To his angry Mistress, who hath

**A**s the declining of the Sunne brings a generall dark-  
 nesse and discomfort, so the deficiency and absence of  
 your shining and glorious fauours hath euertowered me  
 with clouds of care. But as the Sunn heavenly essence  
 by the course of Nature is daily reuiued, so here I humbly  
 sue that your wonted gracious aspect may returne in your  
 countenance, to solace the dolefull heart of your seruant  
 with vicissitude of long intermitted alacrity, it will re-  
 deeme to your great commendation, when the world shall  
 vnderstand that your heart is of ware, not inepexable and  
 of a flinty and adamantine constitution, hoping that you  
 will be as ready compassionately to grant as I doe submis-  
 sively implore the renouation of your loue, I rest,

Yours in vauerable  
 affection.  
 R. S.



A Letter from an Apprentice in London, to his  
 father in the Country.

**M**y humble dutie remembered good father unto you  
 and my mother. Having the opportunitie of this  
 bearer, I thought good to certifie you of my present being,  
 giuing you to vnderstand that I am, I thanke God, and  
 you, in good health, and very wel placed here in London,  
 where I am in hope to continue my here being to some pro-  
 fittable and good purpose. I pray God bless me in good sort,  
 and I want nothing that appertained to such a one as my  
 selfe. I trust you shall haue my ofnes, and ere a few yeares  
 passe, I doubt not but so to behaue my selfe that I shall well  
 deserue

desire this good liking that should have made  
and further credit at his hands with employment about his  
business. I hope you and my mother and all our friends  
in the country are in good health. I am sure you will  
write unto my master as occasion serveth, and thanks him  
for his good usage: and if you can so remember him with  
some good convenient token from the country. Thus desir-  
ing your daily blessings, and with a recommendation of  
my humble dutie unto you both, I take my leave.

London. Your loving and obedient  
son and command,

De B.



A Letter from a husband to his wife.

**C**onfort wife, remembering my hartie desires from you,  
I and my children, my hope is that you will have that  
loving and respect towards them and your family  
that appertaineth. I have lost manie things now by reason  
of the suddenesse of my journey, which standeth upon your  
good regard to be ordered, as namely the charges of my ser-  
vants, and the disposition of some other affaires and busi-  
nesses. You shall now know your selfe a discret and care-  
full wife, if in my absence you will take upon you to be in  
my place. Regard and consider with your selfe, that ser-  
vants are negligent and carelesse, and if the master forget  
his owne profit, they are as ready as others to share with  
his gaires. Your painfull attendance to our lookes them,  
shall strain their labours to my using, your desire to see to  
them, shall worke their using to my well deserving. You  
must now a little forget neighbourhoode, and walking for  
company, considering the old proverbe, that when the Cat



is a toy, the *Quene* will you play: If *Paſter* and *Danie* have both continued abſence, ſervants ſall a waſting, and doe what they liſt. You know good wiſe. I have now taken a great charge of late upon me, which with ſome care ſhall lookeing to may turne to good. Let it not be grieuous unto you, nor thinke it hard that I thus make you partaker of my charge, as I doe of my profit, for we are yoke-fellowes you know, and the charge is equall betwixt vs both to be borne and ſupported. If as loving mates and fellowes we dwell ſoith together, we ſhall by Gods bleſſed goodneſſe ſee the fruits of our labours: our children ſhall participate with vs of our treaſure, and God ſhall proſper our endeauiours. And howbeit good wiſe I have ever found you ſuch, as of whole care of my well doing I neede haue no doubt, yet if by the importance of my charge I be driuen to ſay ſo much unto you, thinke that in greates truſt of your modeſtie, reſpect of your loue, and zeale to both our goods I haue done the ſame. And though no diſtruſt remains of any one about me. yet doe I put you in mind what youth by too much ſufferance and giuing of libertie may be inclined to. This is all I wende, and ſo much I hope as you gladly will read vnto. Commend mee many times vnto yourſelfe. Kiſſe my little ones, and remember me, and commend my loue to all our friends. From *Kye* the 3 of *Feb.* 1618.

Your aſſured loving husband.

F. G.

*Her Answer.*

Good husband, I am glad you haue at laſt remembered yourſelfe by this bearer to write vnto mee, that haue thought it very long vntill I heard from you. I doe greatly reioyce at the good and proſperous ſucceſſe of your iourney,  
and

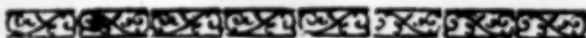


## Cupids Messenger.

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and chiefly, that you haue endured your trauell so well, being in so good plight and streng h of body, as I vnderstand you are by your Letter. Wee are much beholden vnto our good friends in the country that haue ginen you so great and good entertainment: and I pray you heartily commend me vnto them. Your businesse here goeth very well, and your seruants both dutifull and diligent about their affaires, and we haue no want but your presence, which if you would hasten hitherward; it were a comfort vnto vs all to see you, ha-  
ning beens as to me is seemeth, very long absent. But Master Prince, and his friends where you are, weth you so kindly, that I thinke you cannot well tell how to wade your selfe out from your good company. Yet good husband remember that at last you must come home, and the sooner the better. I referre all to your good disereion: and so commend mee most heartily vnto you. From London.

*Your ever loving and  
loyall Wife,  
R.G.*



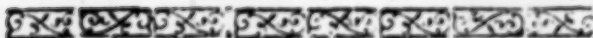
A Letter from one kinsman to another in London,  
or any other place.

**M**y good Cousin, I am glad to heare of your good pro-  
serment in London, and that as I heare by your fa-  
ther and mother, you are so well placed there, and with so  
good a Pastor. It is no little comfort to me to vnderstand  
that you doe so resolutely and with so good a minde dispose  
your selfe to your businesse, which I gladly wish you should  
continue. You must now remember, that your friends with  
great care, charge, and industrie haue brought you up, and  
that their intent and meaning therein was, that in expec-  
tation thereof they should haue joy and comfort of you in

your eldor yeeres: for which as you haue not bequested  
your selfe to this place of seruice, so must you for any feare  
of hard usage, bitterness of speech, or other unlike of taunts  
or rebukes, make a account to endure and continue. It may  
be, being not vniacquainted with the customes and usage  
of London, you doe not thinke well of that which hereaf-  
ter may turne to discontentment. But good cozen so be it,  
you haue no want of things needfull and necessarie, scame  
your selfe to so; beare all those crosse matters whatsoeuer,  
and give your selfe wholly on Gods name, to the benefit  
of your seruice, you shall therein want no helpe, further-  
ance or incouragement on my part, and if you performe it  
well and honestly, you shall not want when time seruetly  
for an hundred pounds or two, if in the meane space I may  
see your good care of your masters business, and please your  
mistre, so; therein you shall the better please your master.  
Your friends are all well, who reioycing in that already  
they see you so well behaved, doe daily pray to God to pro-  
spect and bless you: and thus with my heartie commen-  
dations I bid you farewell. Farndon this 18 of May 1628.

Your louing kinsman,

F. C.



A Letter to request the borrowing of an hundred pounds.

**S**ir, I am bold in my great necessitie, vnder assurance  
of your forwardnesse to doe me good, to intreat your  
speciall aide and furtherance in two things, the one where-  
of is to lend me of your wanted fauour one hundred pounds,  
the other this bearer shall instruct you in, both which con-  
sist in your kinde and friendly care of my well being, I am  
of opinion none other then your selfe can fit the occasion,  
better

## Cypide Messenger.

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better. And such is the force of imprisonment, so contrarie to that you have wantonly knowne in me, my understanding is quite decayed, and soze woone with want of libertie, and where the spirits are so distanced, it must needs follow, the memory must needs sound nothing but discord. In fine, Sir, it is in you to doe me good, and to make me by this onely action for ever beholden unto you, wherein if I may so far forth presume of your fidelitie assure your selfe if ever God give me libertie, to none so much as you shall I be yoked in comitell. Good Master T. A. the matter herof requireth some haste, whereto I must heartily intreat you faile me not.

Fare ye well this 18 of December. 1628.

Your imprisoned friend,

I. S.

### *The Answer.*

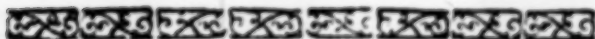
**G**ood Master I. S. needlesse it were you should intreat me in that wherein you have found me most willing, and such whom with small periwasion you may induce to a farre greater purpose then what in your last letter is required; the messenger I have appointed to returne againe to my chamber to morrow morning, at which time I will not faile to send you your desired summe: for the other, hard will it be for me to accomplish that wherein your selfe seeme so vnperfect, for that the dullest conceit forged from the most dismembered of your imaginations, cannot but sound far better unto then in respect of my inuocations any wayes able to deliuer. Neuertheless such as it is, or (by dislike of your owne) you haue will to account of, that will I prepare to your view, and put forward to your good speed, thinking it better by the deliuey of a grosse dence to satisfie the demand of a friend, then by the concealing the simplicity thereof, to be confuted vnconuous. In conclusion,

it

it is lawfull for you to vse me to the vttermoſt, and ſtreſt to your conformed league of amitie, that (in whatſoeuer) you ſhould imploy me, wherein I deſire you conceiue no more then ſuch as I intend to become, and you ſhall aſſuredly finde me,

*Your faithfull friend.*

I. P.



A Letter to his friend for breach of promiſe.

**M**After Iackſon, I haue abſtained hitherto to come or ſend vnto you, partly being wearied with impoſtunitie, ſo; that I thought, now two moneths being paſſed, I might in this ſpace haue found a time conuenient wherein to haue ended with you. Having taken this cauſe in hand, I would (as in good reaſon I thought it ſhould) determine with me vpon ſome concluſions whereon to reſt aſſured, I might thenceforth know where to truſt, and neither waſte labour in coming to ſo ſmall purpoſe, nor hinder my certaine buſineſſe by the vnſteadie ſtay of your affaires, as already I haue done. We haue talked many times, and ſet downe certaine limits, but to ſcnder effect, as I neither know when to demand, nor you how to ſatiſſie. So that depending vpon ſhadowes, I haue paſſed my time to ſmall benefit, and you haue gone ſo;ward to little purpoſe. I doe pray you therefore that ſuch meaning may aſſure vs, as already betwixt vs hath bene perſo;med. To delay me thus with riſies, as I thinke is farre from a Gentleman, ſo doe I ſuppoſe you not intend it, conſidering how many waies thereby I am and ſhall be hindered. This therefore may be the certaine meanes to ſatiſſie vs both, that you will (as on Friday laſt you promiſed) come and ſe the agreement betwixt vs perſo;med, where-  
of

## Cupids Messenger.

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So I pray you aduertise your full resolution by this bearer.  
And so I bid you heartily farewell.

Arthingworth.  
May 7. 1618.

Your ever assured  
louing friend,

W. M.

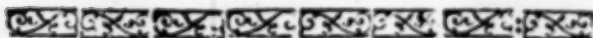
### *The Answer.*

**G**ood master W. M. my breach of promise in not ha-  
ving visited you with deserued requitall sithence my  
departure, may breed suspicion and doubt of vnthankfulnes,  
but I hope, and by hope, peritme, that of your owne good  
disposition towards all your acquaintance, you will yeeld  
vnto an approued tryall before you condemne. For my  
part, if I should not owe vnto you all honest minde and fide-  
lity, I should much contrary your great courtesie, and deser-  
uedly incur the shame of ingratitude. You know that ha-  
ving strayed as I haue done out of the limits of a controuled  
rule, and displeased so much thereby, as my case hath be-  
wrayed vnto you, those whom by nature and duty I ought  
to be aued vnto, it is reason that by a more strict obser-  
uance I make amends for the residue. The day appoynted  
I will not faile to meet to view the writings, and to make  
some conclusion to your best satisfaction. Wherein you shall  
perceiue the honest minde of a Gentleman. My father it  
seemeth, though not yet by me, hath otherwise vnderstood  
how much I stand yoked (in all friendly league of amity)  
vnto you, and thinketh himselfe for all his sons vnchristi-  
anesse somewhat therein to be tyed vnto you. His meaning  
is, one of these dayes to intreat your paines hitherward. But  
howeuer deserves be noted, or care by nature doth binde, as-  
sure your selfe, whilest life leadeth a long this earthly course,  
I am and will be also yours most vnfaignedly and in most in-

H                      tire

study. To whom and to your good bedfellow, I most heartily  
and often commend me: From Thindon. June 28. 1628.

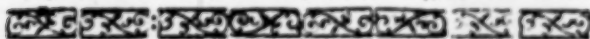
*Reminding your much bounden friend  
in all good affeition, I. R.*



To his friend a Mercer.

**D**Eare Sir, many salutations, &c. As my occasions fall  
out I still presume to trouble you, grounding my bold-  
nesse vpon the hope of your loue and good will, I request  
you to send me as much black Battin as will make me a  
sute. I am your debto; already, besides in good will and  
loue, a small summe, which for that it hath bene long de-  
tained, you may coniecture it to be desperate: yet on my  
credit it is as sure as any money in your purse: My intent  
being honest, but my hope not such as at this time I can sa-  
tisfiewest. Yet as I expect the plenty of my purse will be  
so profuse, that God permitting without faile for these are  
the old debt you shall be fully discharged. Acknowledging  
my selfe beholding, I rest

Your thankfull friend, R. G.



A Letter to my vnfaithfull friend.

**S**ir, I haue ever bene so loth to thinke ill of you, that I  
scarce allow mine owne witness against you, as those  
strong presumptions that make me thinke you meane to  
keepe no promises nor no friends: If you will needs haue it  
so, let our acquaintance now grow sickly, and die priuate-  
ly, lest I be blamed for trusting, and you for deceiuing so  
great a trust. For since our loue is grown into so desperate a

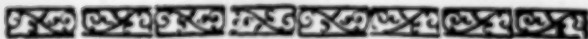
Lc.

## Cupids Messenger.

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Letthargie, I will not wake it, for I had rather it should passe away in a trance, and the remembrance thereof neuer hereafter to be mentoned: What your friendship was I cannot tell, but I am assured to theieto it was fit for greater courtesies then I required: what mine owne was Iudge when you haue most need of a friend. Neither will I tell you what a sea of misfortune your breach of promises hath let in vpon me: but He bid you now and ever fare well, and with my letter conclude all rites of loue betwixt you and me, and rest

No longer your friend, I. B.



### A Letter for admittance into seruice.

**H**onourable sir: I haue euer bene so addicted to follow you, that in mine owne opinion I am an outcainer of yours: so I am within a degree of a household seruant, which is all the promotion that by the intercession of this Letter I crine to come to. But I see so many steps directed that way, that I may perhaps come too late, yet I hope your number is not full, though it be great, and I suppose all are not invited that goe: but some intrude. I will take it for extreame bounty to be admitted within your gates: what I doe is pressed by no necessity, but to saue my longing, and to satisfie my desires, which a far off haue euer serued you. Once I thought to haue moved this suit by friends, but that way I was afraid it might miscary: and I was not verie willing it should succeed, being loth to intangle my selfe in obligations, to other men, when I was to passe my selfe ouer vnto you. so I thought best to write, for to speake had bene too bold. And in hope at the least of a pardon, I rest as far as in me lies,

Your humble seruant,

B. I.

H 1

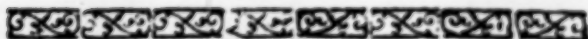
To



To his loue vpon a long and fruitlesse affection.

**I**t is the property of none but of a faint-hearted souldier  
for receiving a repulse or two to retire from assault, and  
to giue over his enterpryse: when ererie one ought to be  
constant perseuerance, that he may worke the accomplish-  
ment of his desires. The long vnsuccessfullnesse of my suit  
hath not made me wearie of your service, though since I  
first fell in loue with you (O might the examples which  
you no longer to retard your affection) the Sun hath gone  
about the world, and giuen a new life to all things which  
the tempestuous winter had left frozen: the joyfull Mar-  
chant hath made a rich returne, and the laborious husband-  
man hath cramm'd his barnes with the plenteous crop of  
the most fruitfull earth: Euerie one hath his hope, onely  
my selfe more vnsuccesfull than all the rest, in this reuolu-  
tion of time haue not had any success. I am you see per-  
fectly in misfortune: it cels in you with the sympathie of af-  
fection to make me perfect in felicity, of which I will ne-  
uer despaire, there being no heart that is more infinitely  
affected toward you then the heart of

Your truest seruant, F. J.



To his sweet heart in the Country.

Sole mistress of my affections:

**T**hough in London where I now am many singular  
beauties are daily obnoius to my sight, yet I beseech  
you not to charge me vntrained lines with flatterie, if in the  
best collaudation of your owne vnparalleld pulchritude I  
perfix your vnmatchable sayme before the rarest of their  
composures: Their symmetries come as far short of yours

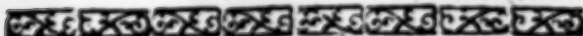


## Cupids Messenger.

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as the splendor of the twinkling stars comes short of the all-enlightning radiance of the Sun beames, and they all are as far your inferiours in the ravishing gifts of Nature, as the wildest pebble is inferiour to the mouth of the most high priced Carbuncle. To which outward endowments when I retaine in my mind (and no house passeth without commendation of your perfections) how sweetly you have visited all interuall graces, then am I distracted with griefe for my absence, and though my heartstrained mind be inseparably with you, yet I curse the distance of place which beelines me of all comfort, because it discernes me from your presence, which till I enjoy, all joy is banished out of my breast, and I have given griefe a free dominion in me, I cannot say I rest, but I remaine,

Your entire vassall, I. S.



A young mans Letter to his enamoured mistress.

Fairest of a thousand :

**I**f you were not absolute, I would not be thus resolute: I only to love you whom I hold onely worthie loving: your beauidie tells mine eye, and your kindness perswades my heart of your goodness: for, if you were proud, I should disdain you, and if you were not faire I would not affect you: now, if you know the one true in your selfe, believe the other in me, and wrong not your selfe, in not doing me right: Goodwill and wickedness are two, and delays are the hindrances of happiness: to urge your patience with importunitie I will not, and yet to give out my suit I cannot: And therefore knowing your iudgment sufficient to understand your owne good, I hope to finde your disposition not inclinde to hurt him, who remaineth,

Your if you will, and  
when you will, T. D.

H 3

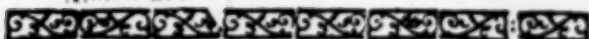
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and to troth, and to the end of the world, I will be true to you.  
*Her kind answer.*

**M**y worthy friend, how long I have loved you, was from the first instant that I beheld you: how much I do love you, I would I could tell you: how dearly I will love you, my heart and powers shall truly make knowne unto you: and if vnder heauen I may find such happinesse on the earth as to be regarded in your fauour, I will thinke it idle that I should caringly felicitate for your excellencie, being almost without exception; let my loue be without comparison and if truth may haue belife, let my affection be without suspition: and as you haue won my heart with your eyes, make it happy with your hands: so hoping that so sweet an aspect can haue no sowrenesse in spiriting, in the hope of your kinde answer, I rest

*Yours, deuoted to be commanded.*

A. B.



**A Letter of Request.**

**K**inde friend: I should content a kindnesse, but for feare of a deniall, not out of mine owne defects, but rather your disposition, in which I doubt is too neere the nature of the world, rather to grant then to gratifie: yet such are moze trials of wit then truth, and a faithfull heart hath no stop in love, and therefore, that I may not haue cause to wrong my selfe in my others confidence of your worth, bee right to your selfe in the good of that personage, that, without parenthesis may conclude in a full point of kindnesse. The substance of my suit I haue sent you by word of mouth, because my hand-writing shall not witness my unhappinesse if my hope should faile the expectation of my affection, in which without greater care of the contrarie, I rest,

*Yours as you know, D. S.*

A

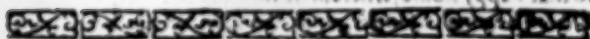
# Cupids Messenger.

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A Letter of discontent, vpon deniall of a Request.

My final friend; I charge you for nothing more than that I have nothing  
to thank you for, wherewith you rather considered what  
I am, then your selfe should be: pardon my folly, in presum-  
ing about knowledge, and beloeue me no more if I fall  
into the like error of opinion: you willed me to make ac-  
count of your wisest power, in my good: It may be it  
was in wishes, which are easily requited, but when they  
are void of effects, they are but troubles to console: I can  
not spell without letters, nor understand words without  
substance, therefore loath to be tedious, when I have been  
willingly be the troublesome, I pray you but complement  
be without cost, so shall blindness continue, in that piteous  
on of iudgement that shall make me attune to be  
quite your deniall of my request as I have cause,

Your friend to commend. R. Ty.



To a Court Lady.

I If Love could be sensible, patience could have no passion,  
but truth is so tied to affection, that as a sound limbe it  
cannot halt. If you aske the reason of my affection, looks  
into the excellencie of your alone worth, and then if there  
be any cause, take it in the best part, which groweth  
from your selfe: for such is my iudgement of your deser-  
uing, as can be answered in nothing but in admiring: for  
surely, he must be either verie dim sighted that doth not  
preferre your beautie to a'l shadowes, or dull witted, that  
understands not the honour of your worth. I pray  
leave then, out of the sight of my best sense, and sense of my  
best

best sight, to donate my service to your command, that  
may give a happiness in your employment: and humble  
Complements are but Court fashions, let plain truth  
have such acceptance in your favour, that Suspicion may  
not suspect a true affection: in which I bow ever to rest,

Yours all, or mine owns not at all,  
I. G.

*Her complementall answer.*

**W**hat words shall I vie to win your affection, hold-  
ing my vnder heaven my happiness but in your love: if  
words would please you in your affairs, I would never rest  
but in your service: if gifts might be graciously accepted, I  
would give you my life for your love: if pity might move  
you, I would lay before you my passion: and if my death  
might only answer your desire, I would not live to despair  
of your comfort: but love being a spirit of that nature, that  
only is pleased in being himselfe, I will leave all my hopes  
to that happy hour, wherein he may in your eyes, cast those  
blest beams of favour, upon the faith of my heart, that  
may make me in the infrangible bond of devoted service to  
the last period of my life

*Yours wholly and only to be  
commanded, E. N.*

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FIN IS.

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